6 DIGITAL VIDEO RECOVERY	Page Page 1 of 2
Division of Forensic Science	Amendment Designator:
PROCEDURES MANUAL: Forensic Imaging & Audio Analysis	Effective Date: 22-March-2004

6 Digital Video Analysis

6.1 Purpose

This document contains the procedures for the proper collection and preservation of Digital Video evidence. Making an image of the digital video recorders (DVR) hard drives or other related digital media, as well as any operating systems or encoding software necessary to access and process the video signals.

6.2 Equipment and Materials

The following equipment and materials may be used but not limited to

- 6.2.1 Digital video recorders
- 6.2.2 Computer hardware and software
- 6.2.3 Various printers with appropriate output media
- 6.2.4 Various media to maintain images and or video signals

6.3 Procedures

- 6.3.1 All media will be write protected if possible.
- 6.3.2 The evidence will be imaged to a blank copy of the same media type. The original media should be properly labeled as the original (see section 20.5.6 of the Quality Manual). The imaged media will be marked and used for the analysis. The MD-5 hash values of both media will be recorded and maintained in the case file documentation.
- 6.3.3 The video signals will be processed as necessary to maximize its quality. All processing methods will be documented in the order in which they were performed either in the case file documentation or within the processing systems software. The processing methods used will very in sequence and intensity due to the quality of the original video signals and the examiners discretion.

Note: The most typical operations conducted on images or video signals include, but are not limited to the following;

- 6.3.3.1 Brightness and contrast adjustments
- 6.3.3.2 Conversion to gray scale
- 6.3.3.3 Histogram equalization
- 6.3.3.4 Sharpening
- 6.3.3.5 Frame Averaging
- 6.3.3.6 Noise Reduction by various methods
- 6.3.4 The results of the analysis will be saved under the appropriate file number to a lossless compression format.
- 6.3.5 The results of the analyzed images will printed and if satisfactory, labeled and returned with the original submitted evidence. Analyzed video streams will be output to video tape and or other forms of digital media, i.e. compact disk (CD), digital video disk (DVD), or other media and returned with the original submitted evidence.

6.4 Calibration

Calibration procedures and scheduled maintenance for all equipment will be done in accordance with manufacturers' Recommendations and recorded in the maintenance log located in the appropriate laboratory.

6.5 Calculations

Calculations will be determined by the type of evidence being examined.

6 DIGITAL VIDEO RECOVERY	Page Page 2 of 2
Division of Forensic Science	Amendment Designator:
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6.6 Limitations	
It must be recognized that the greatest limitation of the comparison process is the qua ability to resolve the individual characteristics that differentiate the item from other s	lity of the submitted evidence and the imilar items.
6.7 Safety	
Gloves should be worn to handle any potentially bio-hazardous evidence.	
6.8 References	
Owner's manuals and users manuals should be referenced for equipment and operating	ng instructions.
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